

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	19 June 2002
Name of applicant/court:	Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Cerv
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Computer Printout
Country of Origin:	Not Applicable
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running time:
Trailers:	Running time:
	Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The computer printout entitled *Cerv* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The publication is a computer printout, consisting entirely of text, of an Internet Relay Chat session between two participants identifying themselves as a 35-year-old man and a 16-year-old boy. The printout was obtained from a "log" file, which records the contents of an Internet chat session, saved on the hard drive of a computer. The publication revolves around the man making sexually suggestive comments to the boy indicating that he finds boys of that age sexually arousing and that he wants to have sex with the boy. The boy presents as reticent and at times uncomfortable with the sexual comments. However, at the end of the session he agrees to continue to communicate with the man.

The computer printout promotes and supports the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes. While some of the sexual comments are explicit, most of them are suggestive rather than explicit. However, the man's approach to the boy is predatory and he has some success in manipulating the boy and trying to exploit him for sexual purposes. The publication therefore promotes and supports the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes.

The computer printout meets criteria under s3(2)(a) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993, and is therefore deemed to be objectionable. A classification of "objectionable" places a limit on the right to the freedom of expression as set out in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, in relation to this publication, the classification is considered to be a reasonable limit prescribed by law that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

OFLC Ref: 200490